



Disadvantaged Community Assistance for the Lead Sampling Program

What is Disadvantaged Community Assistance for the Lead Sampling Program?

The Indiana Finance Authority (“IFA”), with assistance from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, developed the Lead Sampling Program (“LSP”). The purpose of the program is to help school and child care facilities assess if there is a presence of lead in drinking water within their buildings. Recently, the IFA secured a US EPA grant to assist Indiana school and child care facilities located in Disadvantaged Communities remove, replace, and otherwise remediate drinking water fixtures, pipe, plumbing components, and lead service lines that test at or above the 15 parts per billion (“ppb”) action level.

How does the state determine if a school or child care facility is located in a Disadvantaged Community?

Grant eligibility is specific to individual facilities. An eligible facility must meet at least one of the IFA’s three criteria of a Disadvantaged Community:

1. Located in or serve a community with a Median Household Income (“MHI”) below \$56,303, according to the 2015- 2019 American Community Five Year Survey (please note these numbers will adjust on 7/1/2022)
2. Located in or serve a community with a monthly residential drinking water bill greater than \$45.00 per month (for 4,000 gallons)
3. Located in or serve a community where the annual residential drinking water bill divided by the MHI is 1% or greater.

Who is eligible for the program?

Specifically, all public and private-non-profit K-12 schools that are recognized by the Indiana Department of Education and meet at least one of the above Disadvantaged Community criteria are eligible to apply. Additionally, all child care facilities that are recognized by the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration and meet at least one of the above Disadvantaged Community criteria are eligible to apply.

What does the program provide?

Costs related to the removal, replacement and otherwise remediation of drinking water fixtures, pipe, plumbing components, and lead service lines that test at or above 15 ppb. Documentation of costs for materials and supplies must include itemized invoices or receipts; documentation of labor cost must include an itemized contract and invoices. Please note, the IFA cannot reimburse a facility for its own labor force to complete work and facilities must follow state procurement requirements.

What is the process?

Submit an application to the LSP, which can be done on the [IFA website](#). As part of your application, please submit the following information for each facility:

1. the MHI of the population served by the facility according to the 2015- 2019 American Community Five Year Survey (<https://www.census.gov/data.html>); use township/town/city/county boundaries as needed
2. the monthly residential drinking water bill (for 4,000 gallons) of the utility that provides water to the facility.

(If you need assistance determining this information, contact Sarah Hudson at sahudson@ifa.in.gov or 317-232-2812)

The IFA will review applications and notify participants regarding eligibility for grant funds. After remediation work is completed and confirmatory samples are satisfactory, participants will submit to IFA a disbursement request along with itemized invoices of materials and itemized invoices from contractor. (Please note, the IFA cannot reimburse a facility for its own labor force to complete work.) Once the disbursement request is approved, the grant amount will be finalized, and the funds will be disbursed within approximately three weeks.

When can I apply for this program?

The IFA will accept applications for this funding round until August 20, 2021.

For more information: Visit the Lead Sampling Program website: <https://www.in.gov/ifa/lead-sampling-program/phase-ii-2019-current/>